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Executive Registry

76-5280

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20 September 19

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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence
FROM : [redacted]
National Intelligence Officer for USSR
SUBJECT : US Posture Toward Soviets on SALT
Compliance Issues

I may need this again!

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1. On looking further into this morning's confusion about what we've said to the Soviets about dismantling etc., I learn the following from the Salt Support Staff:

7/22/76
ED

A. The only formal communications sent to the Soviets remains that of 23 August (attached). It does not tell them they are in full compliance. It says we find the "major requirements" of the Protocol "have been met," but that we want to have further discussion of detailed procedures at the September SCC meeting.

B. The meeting last week was of the Compliance Working Group of the Verification Panel. Your rep is [redacted] The meeting discussed the instructions to our SCC Commissioner Graybeal for the September session. NSC Staff is drafting; no text has reached us yet. [redacted] expects the instructions will call for discussing procedures regarding the ABM treaty and dismantling/destruction, but for avoiding the inscription of any agenda item under the rubric compliance.

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2. Seems to me this tactic is designed to put the dismantling/destruction problem in a perspective of general but not total USG satisfaction and to enable us to say, in response to possible questions, that we are not discussing compliance issues with the USSR. This would be congruent with the contingency press guidance (also attached).

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Attachment
a/s

cc: D/DCI/NI

[redacted]

[redacted]

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Next 3 Page(s) In Document Exempt

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